Dear Sir,,

Will you permit me to state a few hard facts for the consideration of H.H.The Maharaja, in connection with the proposed establishment of a University in Mysore? I, as a Mysorean, having the welfare of my country and of my countrymen at heart and thoroughly imbued with loyalty to my sovereign, find it exceedingly difficult to repress my feelings in connection with the subject, since I hear that the University is to be an accomplished fact very soon and that it is one of the items of business on which His Highness and the Dewan are now proceeding to Delhi.

No one ever doubts that our present Dewan is filled with a degree of patriotism unheard of in the annals of Mysore, to lift his country to the level of some of the foremost ones in the West. He has been working restlessly ever since his advent here to achieve this object; but his methods are far too advanced and his schemes much too ambitious to bring about the desired consummation in the present state of the coutry. His patriotism and his ambition hav made him completely blind to to the shortcomings and purely selfish motives of those that surround him and he believes that the introduction into our country of mere forms that are in vogue in the advanced countries of the West will bring about the desired result; in fact, he hopes to see during his administration, Mysore transformed into Canada. If his councillors and Heads o of Departments had at least a hundredth of his patriotism and even an ordinary sense of justice and duty,, and if they worked harmoniously together,, we could certainly expect better state of things; but many of the higher officers have absolutely no sense of duty, are most of them selfish and indifferent, and do not care what may happen to the country so long as they have power to amass money and to help their relatives and friends to get on. The confidence of the people that justice will be done by the Government has been thoroughly shaken. The Press Regulation prevents people airing their grievances, because who would like to be turned out of his country? Under these circumstances, the more sensible of His Highness's most loyal subjects view with consternation the attempts of the Dewan to establish a University in the country with such selfish people to guide it. There are some ultra-patriotic Mysoreans who have been crying from the housetops that a millennium is dawning for Mysore. This

This is purely from selfish motives.

There is no denying the fact that the Madras University, though not an ideal one,,commands respect anywhere in the world, since it has fairly established its reputation for a high standard of efficiency of its graduates and its strict methods of work. Our complaint against this University seems to be that it does not produce a sufficient number of graduates for our use. If this be the prime reason for starting a University of our own, we shall be placing a premium on discontent with which the country is already steeped.

Those who come frequently in contact with both Mysoreans and Madrasees of various degrees of capacity and position in life must admit that the averag Madrasee is superior in point of capacityto an average Mysorean. We Mysoreans should not shut our eyes to this fact. Our University takes away the opportuni ty for our studentss to come into contact with the Madrasee; for though the University enthusiasts may say that our Civil Service Examination is sure to attract a host of Madrasees of a high order to our University, yet we know that those people are too shrewd to take such risks. The generality of our people would become insular and lose all opportunities of being benefited by contact with their superiors in point of intelligence and capacity.

The establishment of a University is not like the creation of the Economic Conference; the latter is sure to be abolished by the successor of our present Dewan; but the former will stand for ever. The Dewan will say that the people will surely adjust themselves to their environment; that may be in course of time, but in the meanwhile many will,have to suffer. We have not heard of degrees being given from personal considerations in the Madras University,, though sometimes we see undeserving candidates coming out successful. In our University personal element is sure to count for much as is every day seen in the bestowal of Government appointments.'Whose son is he'will be loudly heard. The world outside will readily smell this out , and the Mysore graduate will become a byword for contempt. Though we may get our Charter from the King-Emperor and though apparently our graduates can claim equal treatment with those of other Universities as regards admission,&c. into foreign Universities, yet when one of our graduates is pitted against a Madras graduate our men will certainly suffer by comparison. Let us look at our Civil Servants - those who have come in through the open door of competition; most of them are Madrasees

and of the few Mysoreans, half the number have had their training in the Madras colleges. There is no denying the fact that these Mysore Civilians are decidedly inferiar. The Dewan will certainly answer every one of these objections. I pray to the Almighty God that He in His Infinite Mercy may spare the large number of poor Mysoreans the misery of having to face starvation though armed with Mysore Degrees.

His Highness may not be aware that the European officers of the State with the exception of Mr. Denham, are not in favour of the local University. The leading article that appeared in the Madras Mail some months ago and a para graph in the London Times a few weeks ago represent sane opinion on the point. Is it likely that the Scheme will work well in the hands of those who are agains its introduction? Or, will the Government send away all those officers who are not in favour of the scheme? Mr.Denham is truly a time server; he wants to stick on in service even though he is past sixty and so he would do anything to please the person who has the power to do him favour even though his acts may be agains the grain of his conscience; he is a domiciled Mysorean.

Every one is aware of the qualifications of Mr. H.V.Nanjundaiya, our senior councillor. Hehas apparently all the qualifications that entitle a person to a very high place; he has the highest University degrees, ripe experiencein various branches of the Public Service, the experience of the world that one may have through age, and most of all an unsullied personal character. Yet Why is it that His Highness did not select him for his Dewan? Because he is a cynic,not unselfish, studiedly irregular, stubborn to a degree, and is easily led away by people about him to do even an unjust act--the last person therefore to be entrusted with any responsible work on which depends the welfare of the country. He to be chosen to guide the Mysore University!!!--the first among the army of discontented officers that are a bane to the progress of the country. His retirement has for a long time been in the air; it is evident that he and the Government are not pulling on well together; his whole system is filled with discontent at not having been given an opportunity to guide the administrative machinery of the State. Is it just that such a person should be appointed to guide the destinies of the infant University? The Dewan is certainly a very tactful person in proposing this appointment. His conscience troubles him for having superseded Mr.Nanjundaiya and he can no longer pull on well with him in the administration of the State. This is how he wishes to oblige him and at

the same time to get rid of him. But what about the Country? The Dewan has forgotten it. You know he is absent-minded.

The sensible moderates amongst the Mysoreans are happy to hear that His Highness has personally arranged to bring Mr.Bannerjea as councillor witha view to appoint him to succeed Mr.Visvesvaraya. Nothing could have been done better in the interests of the State. We hope that His Highness will graciously consider the serious inadvisability, of appointing Mr.Nanjundaiya who can lay no claim to any knowledge of University affairs, to be Vice Chancellor. Besides , the place of a Vice Chancellor is generally honorary. There seems to be of late some antipathy towards Europeans for appointing them to responsible positions in the State. It should , however, be borne in mind that what ever a European may or may not have, he has a sense of duty inborn in him and has a higher sense of justice than our men can lay claim to, by reason of his superior training. We cannot expect our officers in the lower grades to be just and capable so long as our higher officers continue to be unjust and incapable. A sprinkling of Europeans for some of the higher offices would certainly elevate the tone of the public service. Incase His HIghness is bent upon starting the Mysore University at once would it not be in the interests of the country to give it the best chance possible by importing an experienced and capable person from Europe or America for a term of five years or less with a view to train a capable Mysorean for the place? Prof.Geddes who is so well known for his ability and sympathy to Indian aspirations may perhaps be induced to give our University a start. There are, I have no doubt, capable men in England who would be very glad to have the honor of launching a University like ours.

Our prayer, therefore, is that the starting of the University may be put off for a few years; or, if this be not possible a proper person from Europe or America of the type of Prof. Geddes, may be imported to give a start to our University; but on no account may a local person be allowed to muddle it.

I beg to remain,
Dear Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

A Loyal Son of Mysore.

His Most Benevolent Highness Sri Sir Krishnaraja Wodeyar

Bahadur G.C.S.I.,

Maharaja of Mysore.

Much Revered Sovereign,

I have to open these lines with my humblest apologies as I cannot disclose myself for fear of any additional calamities overtaking your humble petitioner with his existing ~~calamities~~ misfortunes this encroachment on your precious time is for a good cause; to voice the sentiments and to advocate the cause of my brethren in service. If ~~them~~ else ~~shall~~ should ~~man~~ man ask for redress if not from his Sovereign I possess no adequate language with my limited ~~education~~ to sufficiently express the enormities and injustices that is being meted out to many members of the Excise Department with the exception of the favoured few in the present regime. I may here quote the recent circular memorandum of the Excise Commissioner No.701 758 dated 21-7 1915 to the Deputy Commissioners which is nothing but a mere hole to creep in during unforeseen contingencies and to entirely prevent all representations from the wronged. There are officials in this department who in spite of their good work and honesty are so thrown in the background that it is doubtful that their work would ever be recognised, appreciated or rewarded. Men who are fined and ~~suspended~~ for dishonesty misappropriation of Government money &c. are promoted very soon while unfortunate wretches like myself who trudge on and on with the hope that good luck would come in the near future are ever fated for disappointments. preference is given to men of doubtful characters undesirables. castemen and I am sorry to add but is the truth prime The latter shine very well sunning in the good graces of their patrons. There are officials on the same pay for several years together ranging from 5 to 10 years or more without any sort of encouragement whatever. The members of the

of the Excise De artment are very ill- aid. A rumour was current in the ha y days of the regime of your vela beloved brother-in-la Sirdar ..antaraj rs ahadur that this De artment is to be reorganised in order to ut the officials on a better footing so that they may not be liable to tem tations. No doubt this De artment is teeming with officials who are ra acious and avaricious to a rohibitive degree and who can be better classed with beasts than men. ut hat is the Head of the De art ment for Is it not to find out the merits and demerits of his subord inates and to mete out hat is ro erly due for each hy should he not eliminate all such who are nothing but chaff in the grain the resent regime is the orst they say in the annals of the Excise De artment hich unless ut in charge of a com etent Euro ean Head or an Indian of exce tional ca abilities and ho would be unbiassed by caste colour creed or community, in fact who is free from al immoral characters there is no ho e that this de artment if ever attain a level to earn the a robation of ublic o inion. Grievance untold, have arisen dur ng the ast year and it ould re uire years for the sufferers to f rget I earnestly entreat your Royal Highness that the ~~Reorganisation~~ reorganisation of the Excise De artment may be s eedily ordered to be ut into force ith the hel of our o ular De an Sahib and your trusty Councillor and brother in law for hich benevolent act every oor soul ould feel grateful and I trust that this a eal from a very oor humble and honest individual would not fail to awaken your generally generous and sym a thetic feelings to ards your humble loyal subjects of hom

I H... Y ... R... FO... Y ... T... E O.B.E.